

veto, they abandon things like disturbing the Constitution based upon every whim that moves along.

Not DAVID BONIOR. DAVID BONIOR believed in something, and for too many people that have come to this institution for the last few years, their beliefs are bland. Their beliefs are based upon the emotion of the moment, there is no long-held view of anything.

It has been an honor for me to serve with DAVID, and, most importantly, I supported you when you ran for these jobs and was glad to do it. The manner in which you carried yourself day in and day out, you could be as fierce a partisan as there was, but you loved this institution, and, most importantly, you loved the community that we call the American family.

Thanks for all the good things you did, DAVE.

(Mr. FRANK asked and was given permission to speak out of order for 5 minutes.)

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE DAVID E. BONIOR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, I will begin by yielding to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD).

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me to speak on this.

Mr. FRANK. I will yield to the gentleman to speak anywhere he wishes, other than Guam.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. I wanted to take the time to pay tribute to DAVID BONIOR. In a way this is great, because, you know, you get to see all your friends. You do not have to wait until you pass away. This is a terrific opportunity to pay honor to our friend here.

But I have an office with a very not-so-eloquent title of Non-voting Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. It is always a curiosity to me, because he is the whip. He is supposed to count votes, and he knows I do not matter in that count. But it is really a mark of his approach to politics and his commitment to every member of the caucus that he has taken the time and the energy to support me in the various projects that I have had.

When I first decided to run for this office, he received me very well and he took the time to try to understand some of the issues and some of the unique circumstances that we deal with. For a long time, and it is a mark of the high regard and the approach that DAVID has taken over the years, for a long time I thought I was the only one that had a special relationship with him, but, as it turns out, he has got hundreds of these special relationships, and that is really a mark and a testimony to the terrific job that you have done.

Mr. Speaker, despite all the trials and tribulations here, when people ask me who are some of the Members that you really admire, certainly he comes to mind.

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I just want to make two points.

First of all, recently we did have a real eulogy for a Member who passed away, our late colleague Joe Moakley, and the outpouring of affection and respect for Joe Moakley was very impressive. I am in a position to tell you, as someone who was a neighbor to Joe Moakley's district, there was no one in this business that he admired more than DAVID BONIOR.

One of the things Joe Moakley made his goal was when DAVE BONIOR ran for whip was to get Massachusetts Members to vote for him. So let me just past on that if Joe Moakley was still with us, you would be hearing from him his enormous respect and admiration for DAVID BONIOR.

I want to thank him for one other thing. I am a great believer in free speech. I generally vote against it when we start telling adults what they can read and what pictures they can show of each other. But if I was going to amend the Constitution, I would make it illegal to use the words "pragmatism" and "idealism" as if they were in opposition to each other.

The notion that the world should be divided between people who have a strong set of values and people who are effective is really a disaster morally. In fact, the more you are committed to a set of ideals, the more you are morally obligated to be effective in implementing those ideals. Otherwise, they are just something you put on in the morning to make yourself feel good. They do not do anybody else any good.

I know of nobody else in politics who better exemplifies that synthesis. I know of nobody else who is equally a passionate idealist in politics because he has a vision of the world that he wants to have implemented, which would be a fairer and kinder and better world for people who are in need in various ways, and who, at the same time, understands that that gives him the obligation to be as effective as possible; fair but tough; understanding the rules and abiding by the rules; but putting everything every ounce of energy into it. And for his exemplifying that merger of pragmatism and idealism, for understanding that a tough-minded approach to political reality in fact is a necessary compliment to a commitment to a set of values you want to implement, I want to join in honoring DAVID BONIOR and thank him for what he has shown us.

(Mr. GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to speak out of order for 5 minutes.)

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE DAVID E. BONIOR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, like my colleagues, I was actually over in my office and did not know that this was happening today. But I have had the honor to serve five terms in this

House and served with DAVID for many years as part of the whip operation, and for somebody who comes from Texas and sounds like I do, to get to know DAVID and to appreciate him and to realize he is a very low-keyed individual, but, as someone said earlier, very competitive, because I also have had the opportunity to play basketball with him, and not just try and pass or defeat legislation. So he is competitive, but he is very low-keyed.

Typically if I have something to say, I am not only out there and in your face, but DAVID is very quiet about it. So I appreciate that, and I think a lot of us could emulate what he does.

But working with him for these 9 years, I appreciate not only his inward strength, but also his dedication to the issues. It helps having, even though, again, a very urban district in Houston, and DAVID being from Michigan, having a lot of blue collar workers, some of the same demands are in Michigan on the economy as we have in Houston, Texas, a very industrialized district.

So I just appreciate, DAVE, your work here in the House. Like say, I have only seen you the last five terms, but the American people and the people of Michigan owe you a debt of gratitude for your work here in the House.

Obviously, if it does any good for somebody who sounds like me to come up and knock doors in Michigan, I will be up there.

So, DAVID, obviously we will be serving with you for the next year. But not only as our whip, but also just as a person, we will miss you, and I know I will too. Thank you, DAVE.

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(Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey asked and was given permission to speak out of order for 5 minutes.)

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE DAVID E. BONIOR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I guess I did not think any Members looked at their screens in the office, at least after we adjourn, but I too was looking at the screen and I saw the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) come and say that he was looking at his screen and saw that there was a program, so to speak, being held. I fussed at my scheduler, who was out to lunch, because I did not know about this, but I am so glad that I was listening.

I too want to simply add to what has already been said about a person that I have just respected for as long as I have been here in the House. I think that first connection, as I am from the 10th Congressional District too, of New Jersey, but I knew there had to be something good about the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR). We had the same number. And then looking at his high school achievements, I tried to play a little ball and I see where DAVE